

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-05 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

RSC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06

PRS-01 OMB-01 /068 W

----- 037583

R 300455Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1613

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SINGAPORE 4802

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR SN UK

SUBJ: WITHDRAWAL OF UK FORCES FROM SINGAPORE

REF: SINGAPORE 2624

1. UK DEPUTY HIGH COMMISSIONER WATTS ADVISED CHARGE THAT HIS HIGH COMMISSIONER HAS INFORMED PRIME MINISTER LEE OF BASIC DECISION IN UK DEFENSE REVIEW CONCERNING FUTURE OF BRITISH FORCES IN SINGAPORE. LEE WAS TOLD THAT UK HAD REACHED DECISION TO PULL OUT ALL FORCES FROM SINGAPORE SUBJECT TO FURTHER CONSULTATIONS WITH UK ALLIES. HOWEVER, BLOW WAS SOFTENED CONSIDERABLY WHEN HIGH COMMISSION INDICATED THAT THE TIMING WAS INDEFINITE AND COULD PROBABLY BE STRETCHED OUT OVER LONG PERIOD--PERHAPS AS MUCH AS SEVERAL YEARS. WATTS SAID DEFENSE SECRETARY WOULD MAKE STATEMENT IN PARLIAMENT ON DEFENSE REVIEW ON DECEMBER 3 AND THAT THIS STATEMENT WOULD REFLECT DECISION ON SINGAPORE AND MANY OTHER DECISIONS. WATTS SAID LEE HAD PROBABLY ALREADY RECEIVED ADVANCE NEWS OF THIS DECISION THROUGH CONFIDENTIAL

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HIS EXCELLENT CONTACTS WITH THE LABOR PARTY IN LONDON, AND

TOOK THE NEWS WITH CONSIDERABLE EQUANIMITY.

2. WHEN CHARGE ASKED HOW SOON BRITISH LONG-RANGE RECONNAISSANCE AIRCRAFT (NIMRODS) WOULD BE WITHDRAWN AND WHEN ANZUK STORES BASIN WOULD REVERT TO SINGAPORE CONTROL, WATTS SAID HE DID NOT KNOW. HOWEVER, HE SAID TIMING ON THESE MATTERS WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY BE INFLUENCED BY US REPRESENTATIONS TO UK.

3. COMMENT: EMBASSY HAS COMMENTED AT SOME LENGTH IN REFTEL ON ADVERSE IMPACT WHICH UK WITHDRAWAL WOULD HAVE ON US INTERESTS IN SINGAPORE. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO REVIEW THESE CONSIDERATIONS IN CONNECTION WITH ANY FURTHER DISCUSSION OF DEFENSE REVIEW WITH UK.

GRANT

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SURVEILLANCE, TROOP REDUCTIONS, OBSERVATION AIRCRAFT  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 30 NOV 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** boyleja  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974SINGAP04802  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740348-0028  
**From:** SINGAPORE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t1974111/aaaaaage.tel  
**Line Count:** 75  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** SINGAPORE 2624  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** boyleja  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 27 JUN 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <27 JUN 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <17 MAR 2003 by boyleja>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** WITHDRAWAL OF UK FORCES FROM SINGAPORE  
**TAGS:** MARR, SN, UK  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005